

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 EB-07 SS-15 CIEP-02 CEA-01

NSC-05 SP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 COME-00 FEA-01 /091 W

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R 191705Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5236

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CIEC, GW

SUBJ: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CIEC

1. SUMMARY: REACTIONS EARLY IN THE WEEK CAUTIOUSLY
HAILED CIEC AS ONSET OF WHAT MIGHT PROVE TO BE A
CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE LEADING TO REFORMS OF WORLD
ECONOMIC SYSTEM. PRESS TOOK MORE CRITICAL AND
RESERVED STANCE AS MEETING PROGRESSED. END SUMMARY.

2. IN DAYS LEADING UP TO CIEC, WEST GERMAN PRESS
WAS GENERALLY HOPEFUL THAT NORTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE WOULD
MARK NEW DEPARTURE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN
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INDUSTRIAL WORLD AND OPEC/LDC STATES. MANY WRITERS

EXPECTED CIEC TO LEAD TO PRAGMATIC REFORMS WHICH WOULD RETAIN PRINCIPLES OF MARKET ECONOMY SYSTEM AND MEET BASIC NEEDS OF THIRD WORLD. NEED FOR CIEC TO AVOID CONFRONTATION CLIMATE SO CHARACTERISTIC OF UN GATHERINGS WAS LEITMOTIF OF SUCH COMMENT. DERIVATIVE VIEW, BEST EXPRESSED BY INDEPENDENT FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, WAS THAT FRG IS "CONDEMNED TO CONSTRUCTIVE THIRD WORLD POLICY" BECAUSE OF ITS GREAT IMPORT DEPENDENCE. SEVERAL COMMENTS PRAISED USG FOR SHIFTING GROUND AFTER PREPCON I AND AGREEING TO BROADER AGENDA WHICH MADE CIEC POSSIBLE, BUT ALSO NOTED THAT US COMPARATIVELY BETTER OFF THAN FRG IN ITS DEPENDENCE ON THIRD WORLD, AND HENCE LESS IN NEED OF TRUE NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION. DIE WELT OPINED THAT "POLITICAL HYPOCRISY" CHARACTERIZES NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE TO DATE. IT CRITICIZED PALTRY AID GIVEN BY OPEC TO POOR STATES, AND EQUALLY POOR EFFORT BY COMMUNIST BLOC WHICH HAS OPTED OUT OF DIALOGUE. DIE WELT ADDED THAT PRAGMATIC, LESS SENSATIONAL STEPS SUCH AS LOME AGREEMENT MORE LIKELY TO ADD CONSTRUCTIVELY TO NORTH-SOUTH RECONCILIATION.

3. FRG SPOKESMEN ELABORATED ON SOME OF THESE THEMES. FOREIGN MINISTRY STATE SECRETARY HERMES, WHO LED FRG DELEGATION TO CIEC, BRIEFED PRESS LAST WEEKEND TO EFFECT THAT FRG REJECTS UNDILUTED "DIRIGISM" (INDEXATION, EXPROPRIATION ACCORDING NATIONAL LAW, ETC.) IN WORLD ECONOMY BUT ACCEPTS NEED TO REFORM MARKET-ECONOMY SYSTEM IN WAY WHICH WILL OFFER CONCRETE ADVANTAGES TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. IN DIFFERENT ACCENTS AT DECEMBER 17 INTERVIEW, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT CITED NEED FOR MORE DIRIGISM "IN CERTAIN WAY" -- E.G., STABILIZATION OF LDC EXPORT EARNINGS. CHANCELLOR DESCRIBED LENGTHY PREPARATION FOR CIEC AND SAID IT MIGHT LAST BEYOND 1976. A QUICK END TO CIEC, HE ADDED, WOULD BE "BAD SIGN." SCHMIDT ALSO FORESAW NO SIGNIFICANT DROP IN OIL PRICES.

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4. BOTH MAJOR PARTIES PUT PARTISAN GLOSS ON COMMENTS
HAILING CIEC. SPD BUNDESTAG GROUP EXPRESSED
GRATIFICATION THAT CIEC FREE FROM EXTREMIST VIEWS
DEFENDING "NONEXISTENT PURE MARKET ECONOMY" OR
"REPROACHING NEOCOLONIALISM AND EXPLOITATION" -- VIEWS
REPRESENTED, RESPECTIVELY, BY "CDU/CSU AND
USSR." GROUP SAID IT WOULD BE MISTAKE TO LOOK FOR
BREAK UP OF THIRD WORLD, WHOSE SOLIDARITY OFFERS
ADVANTAGE IN THAT MODERATE ELEMENTS COME TO FORE. CDU
GROUP PRAISED RECENTLY-RESTORED EC SOLIDARITY AND URGED
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FRG, TOGETHER WITH EC AND USA, TO PROTECT "LIBERAL
WORLD ECONOMY" AND REJECT THIRD WORLD EFFORTS TO UNDER-
MINE IT ALONG LINES OF PROGRAM ADOPTED AT SEVENTH SPECIAL
SESSION OF UNGA. SUCH COURSE WOULD CREATE BEST MEANS
FOR "GRADUAL SATISFACTION OF NEEDS OF LDCS."

5. PAPERS HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO COMMENT ON OUTCOME OF
CIEC, BUT FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE WROTE DECEMBER 19
ADDITIONAL VIEW THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD TRIED TO
DRIVE WEDGE BETWEEN OPEC AND NON-OIL LDCS WITH HIS

CAMPAIGN FOR LOWER OIL PRICES. IN PAPER'S VIEW, THIS
TACTIC IGNORES BASIC SOLIDARITY OF OPEC/LDC CAMP AND IS ALSO
OUT OF PHASE WITH PRESIDENT FORD'S DOMESTIC PROGRAM
FAVORING HIGHER PRICES AS MEANS FOR LOWERING
DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL. PAPER CONCLUDED THERE NO
CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM THAT CIEC WILL PRODUCE MUCH IN OIL
SECTOR. IT ADDED THAT CIEC EXERCISE WOULD OFFER
LITTLE HOPE IF "IT CONSISTED ONLY OF STATES THAT
BEHAVE LIKE US AND ALGERIA."
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, PRESS COMMENTS, MEETINGS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN20576
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750442-0178
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751225/aaaaavtn.tel
Line Count: 179
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CIEC
TAGS: PFOR, GE, CIEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006